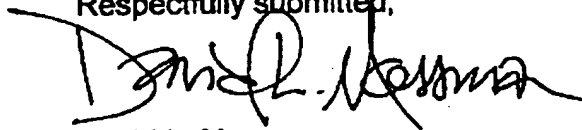


REMARKS

Claims 1-32 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 4-6, 8, 11, 13-14, 19, 21-22, and 24-32 are amended. These changes were made to remove multiple dependencies and to conform the claims to U.S. practice only, and to thus place the claims in better condition for consideration and allowance. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added.

It is respectfully submitted that the amendments and arguments presented above offer the claims in better condition for allowance. Consideration and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested. The Examiner is respectfully reminded of his duty to indicate allowable subject matter. The Examiner is invited to call the Applicants' attorney at the number below for any reason, especially any reason that may help advance the prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,



David L. Mossman
Registration No. 29,570
Attorney for Applicants
Telephone No. 512/219-4026
Facsimile No. 512/219-4036

Madan, Mossman & Sriram, P.C.
2603 Augusta, Suite 700
Houston, TX 77057-5638